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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
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(71) Applicants:
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(54) **Laryngeal Mask Airway Device with Position Controlling Tab**

(57) A laryngeal mask airway device (100), comprising an inflatable cuff (334), the cuff (334) defining a central opening (340) at least when inflated, the cuff (334) being insertable through a mouth of a patient to an inserted location within the patient, the cuff (334) surrounding a glottic opening (212) of the patient when inflated and at the inserted location; an airway tube (110) extending from a proximal end (114) to a distal end, the airway tube (110) defining an internal passage, a sealed airway passage extending from the proximal end (114) of the tube (110) through the internal passage to the glottic opening (212) when the cuff (334) is inflated and at the inserted location; and means (710) to detect the condition or shape of the device (100) and to control the shape of the device (100), said means (710) allowing the device (100) to assume the fully inserted condition.

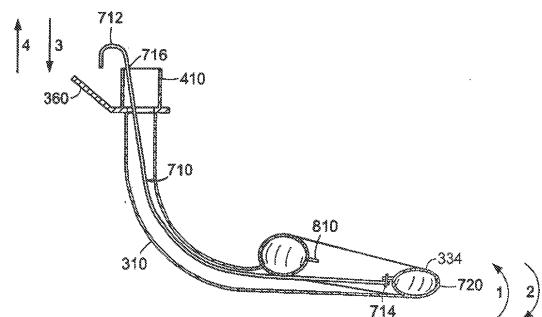


FIG. 11



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 10 15 0123

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 5 937 860 A (COOK DANIEL J [US]) 17 August 1999 (1999-08-17)	1	INV. A61M16/04
Y	* column 5, line 14 - column 7, line 36; figures 1-13 *	2-4,12, 13	
Y	----- DE 30 37 708 A1 (HAINDL HANS) 8 April 1982 (1982-04-08) * page 8, line 18 - page 9, line 20; figures 1-3 *	2-4,12, 13	
A	----- US 6 003 510 A (ANUNTA BOONCHUAY [US]) 21 December 1999 (1999-12-21) * column 3, line 28 - column 5, line 37; figures 1-4 *	1	
A	----- US 2003/062039 A1 (SNIADACH JOSEPH A [US]) 3 April 2003 (2003-04-03) * paragraph [0043] - paragraph [0059]; figures 1-23 *	1	
A	----- US 6 257 236 B1 (DUTKIEWICZ EDWARD P [US]) 10 July 2001 (2001-07-10) * column 6, line 40 - column 7, line 36; figures 6-11 *	12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	----- US 2002/108610 A1 (CHRISTOPHER KENT L [US]) 15 August 2002 (2002-08-15) * paragraph [0047] - paragraph [0061]; figures 8-10 *	13	A61M
----- The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 25 November 2013	Examiner Zeinstra, Hilaire
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



Application Number

EP 10 15 0123

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:
- 1-4, 12, 13
- ☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
EP 10 15 0123

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-4, 12, 13

Laryngeal mask airway device with a rod.
(Problem: to control the shape of the device when inserted into the patient)

2. claims: 1, 5-10

Laryngeal mask airway device with a tab at the proximal end.
(Problem: to reduce the likelihood that regurgitated material will be aspirated into the patient's lung)

3. claims: 1, 11

Laryngeal mask airway device with an oblong cross section of the airway tube.
(Problem: to prevent the airway tube from collapsing)

4. claims: 1, 14, 15

Laryngeal mask airway device with an epiglottis support flange.
(Problem: to prevent the epiglottis from blocking the airway passage)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

25-11-2013

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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82